

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1, 9, 10, 11, 21 and 23; and add new Claims 27-28, all as shown below. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute any originally presented claims in a continuing or future application.

1. (Currently Amended) A workflow integration system for a collaboration system that allows for sharing of workflow information among a plurality of collaboration participants, comprising:
 - a plurality of collaboration participants;
 - a workflow server on each collaboration participant, and having stored thereon a participant workflow, wherein said participant workflow specifies ~~the workflow~~ process information for a project that is local to that collaboration participant, wherein a project is a group of related tasks;
 - a collaboration server having stored thereon and managing an enterprise workflow that ~~includes~~ defines combined process information for the ~~combined~~ participant workflows, and that facilitates conversations spanning those collaboration participants, wherein said enterprise workflow includes a group of tasks executed by the collaboration server across the plurality of collaboration participants to achieve a combined result; and
 - an integration logic that allows one of said participant workflows to interact with another participant workflow ~~via the enterprise workflow of the collaboration server~~ by sending messages from one collaboration participant to another via the collaboration server in accordance with the enterprise workflow, to affect the local projects running thereon.
- 2-3. (Canceled).
4. (Previously Presented) The workflow integration system of claim 1 wherein the enterprise workflow and a participant workflow communicate through exchange of XML data.
5. (Previously Presented) The workflow integration system of claim 1 wherein the enterprise workflow includes at least one process flow lane for each active collaboration participant, and the

action of the enterprise workflow is determined by messages sent to and received from each of said active collaboration participants.

6. (Previously Presented) The workflow integration system of claim 5 wherein the enterprise workflow sends and receives messages directly from collaboration participants.

7. (Previously Presented) The workflow integration system of claim 5 wherein the enterprise workflow sends and receives messages from participant workflows.

8. (Previously Presented) The workflow integration system of claim 7 wherein the enterprise workflow sends and receives messages from a participant workflow via a collaboration enabler authorized to communicate with the collaboration sever.

9. (Currently Amended) The workflow integration system of claim 1 wherein said integration ~~mechanism~~ logic allows the enterprise workflow to modify an active participant workflow process.

10. (Currently Amended) The workflow integration system of claim 1 wherein said integration ~~mechanism~~ logic allows a participant workflow to modify an active enterprise workflow process.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for integrating workflows in a collaboration system, comprising the steps of:

storing an enterprise workflow on a collaboration server, wherein said enterprise workflow includes process information for a plurality of participant workflows, and wherein said enterprise workflow includes a group of tasks executed by the collaboration server across the plurality of collaboration participants, to achieve a combined result;

storing a participant workflow on each collaboration participant server, wherein said participant workflow specifies ~~the workflow~~ process information for a project local to that collaboration participant, wherein a project is a group of related tasks; and[[.]]

providing an integration logic that allows one of said participant workflows to interact with another participant workflow ~~via the enterprise workflow of the collaboration server~~ by sending messages from one collaboration participant to another via the collaboration server in accordance with the enterprise workflow, to affect the local projects running thereon.

12-13. (Canceled).

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the enterprise workflow and a participant workflow communicate through exchange of XML data.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the enterprise workflow includes at least one process flow lane for each active collaboration participant, and the action of the workflow is determined by messages sent to and received from each of said active collaboration participants.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 including sending messages to and from the enterprise workflow directly to collaboration participants.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 including sending messages to and from the enterprise workflow to participant workflows.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 including sending and receiving messages between the enterprise workflow and a participant workflow via a collaboration enabler authorized to communicate with the collaboration sever.

19. (Original) The method of claim 11 including allowing the enterprise workflow to modify an active participant workflow process.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 including allowing a participant workflow to modify an active enterprise workflow process.

21. (Currently Amended) A workflow integration system for integrating workflows of collaboration participants, comprising:

a plurality of collaboration participants;

a workflow server on each collaboration participant having stored thereon a participant workflow, wherein said participant workflow includes workflow process information for a project local to the collaboration participant, wherein a project is a group of related tasks;

a collaboration enabler at each collaboration participant; and[[,]]

a collaboration server having stored thereon ~~and managing~~ an enterprise workflow that includes process information for [[the]] combined participant workflows, wherein said enterprise workflow includes a group of tasks executed by the collaboration server across the plurality of collaboration participants to achieve a combined result, and wherein said collaboration server allows one of said participant workflows to interact with another participant workflow ~~via its collaboration enabler and the enterprise workflow by sending messages from one collaboration participant to another via the collaboration server in accordance with the enterprise workflow, to~~ affect the local projects running thereon.

22. (Previously Presented) The workflow integration system of claim 21 wherein a participant workflow communicates with a plurality of other participant workflows via the collaboration server.

23. (Currently Amended) A method for integrating workflows of collaboration participants in a collaboration system, comprising the steps of:

storing a participant workflow on each collaboration participant server, wherein said participant workflow includes workflow process information for a project local to the collaboration participant, wherein a project is a group of related tasks;

providing a collaboration enabler at each collaboration participant; and[[,]]

providing a collaboration server having stored thereon an enterprise workflow that includes process information for [[the]] combined participant workflows, and allows one of said participant workflows to interact with another participant workflow via its collaboration enabler and the enterprise workflow, to affect the local projects running thereon, and wherein said enterprise workflow includes a group of tasks executed by the collaboration server across the plurality of collaboration participants to achieve a combined result.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 wherein a participant workflow communicates with a plurality of other participant workflows via the collaboration server.

25. (Previously Presented) The workflow integration system of claim 1, wherein the enterprise workflow and the participant workflows are active before interacting with each other.

26. (Previously Presented) The workflow integration system of claim 21, wherein the participant workflows are active before interacting with each other.

27. (New) A workflow integration system that allows for sharing of workflow information among a plurality of collaboration participants in a computer network, comprising:

- a plurality of computers acting as collaboration participants;
- a plurality of workflow servers, including a workflow server executing on each participant computer and having stored thereon a participant workflow that defines the workflow process for a project local to that collaboration participant, and that facilitates local conversations within that workflow process;
- a collaboration server executing on a computer machine and having stored thereon an enterprise workflow that defines the process information for the combined participant workflows, and that facilitates conversations spanning those collaboration participants and using multiple business protocols, said collaboration server further including

a memory having a plurality of collaboration spaces, wherein each collaboration space stores the messages of a particular conversation for delivery to and from the participants as part of that conversation, and

a plurality of business protocol handlers to handle said multiple business protocols;

and

an integration logic that allows one of said participant workflows to interact with another of said participant workflows by sending messages from one collaboration participant to another via the collaboration server in accordance with the enterprise workflow, to interact with the local conversations running on those collaboration participants.

28. (New) A method for sharing workflow information among a plurality of collaboration participants in a computer network, comprising:

providing a plurality of computers acting as collaboration participants;

providing a plurality of workflow servers, including a workflow server executing on each participant computer and having stored thereon a participant workflow that defines the workflow process for a project local to that collaboration participant, and that facilitates local conversations within that workflow process;

providing a collaboration server executing on a computer machine and having stored thereon an enterprise workflow that defines the process information for the combined participant workflows, and that facilitates conversations spanning those collaboration participants and using multiple business protocols, said collaboration server further including

a memory having a plurality of collaboration spaces, wherein each collaboration space stores the messages of a particular conversation for delivery to and from the collaboration participants as part of that conversation, and

a plurality of business protocol handlers to handle said multiple business protocols;

and

allowing one of said participant workflows to interact with another of said participant workflows by sending messages from one collaboration participant to another via the collaboration

Application No. 09/785,862
Response to OA dated: March 04, 2005
Response/Amendment dated: May 4, 2005

server in accordance with the enterprise workflow, to interact with the local conversations running on those collaboration participants.